Harriot Hoke

POETICAL CHRONOLOGY

Q. R.

OF

K

ANCIENT and ENGLISH HISTORY;

WITH

HISTORICAL and EXPLANATORY NOTES.

Non in notitiâ vel rerum, vel TEMPORUM, satis operæ insumitur.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE neceſſity of an early acquaintance with Hiſtory has been always acknowledged. It is as generally confeſſed that, without a proportionate knowledge of Geography and Chronology, Hiſtory cannot make a laſting impreſſion on the memory. The former is acquired with pleaſure and remembered with facility. The ſatisfaction of beholding the face of the earth, of tracing the march of an army, the progreſs of an empire, or even the tour of a traveller, inſenſibly leads the inquiſitive minds of youth to a competent knowledge of Geography. Leſs attractive is the ſtudy of Chronology. A liſt of dates is far from leaving that agreeable impreſſion on the memory, which is the reſult of the attentive ſurvey of a map or a chart. What is indiſtinctly remembered, ceaſes to engage delight; and what is no longer intereſting, is ſoon totally forgotten.

Thoſe,

Thoſe, who rank Hiſtory among the principal branches of a claſſical education, have long been ſenſible of this difficulty. Various plans have been propoſed, and ſyſtems adopted, in order to clear the path of Chronology of its intricacies and impediments. Of theſe, Grey's *Memoria Technica* has received the greateſt ſhare of approbation. But it has of late fallen into diſuſe. The harſhneſs of its meaſures, and the difficulty of committing to memory ſuch lines as:

Cr*othf* Del*etok* Ab*aneb* Ex*afna* Tem*bybe* Cyr*uts*,

were not likely to conciliate the attention of an age, which has been employed in inventing methods to ſimplify the elements of ſcience, and to facilitate the acquiſition of learning.

Having ſucceeded in the attempt to ſmooth the difficulties of Latin Grammar, the writer of theſe ſheets turned his attention to Chronology. He conceived that, if the knowledge of dates, which is happily connected with that of facts, could be reduced to a poetical form, to a ſeries of Engliſh verſes, which might be eaſily learnt on account of their ſimplicity, and remembered without diſguſt, a benefit of ſome importance would be conferred on the riſing age. He found his path fortunately traced, and his labor conſiderably diminiſhed, by two poems, written with a ſimilar deſign. The firſt was, a ſeries of *Chronological Verſes* of Ancient

Ancient Hiſtory, written by Mr. Hooke, the Roman Hiſtorian, and reviſed by the late Biſhop of London. The ſecond was, a *Poetical Chronology of the Kings of England*, preſerved in that valuable repoſitory, the Gentleman's Magazine.

In the former, much alteration and addition was neceſſary. The author had followed the plan of Grey, and adopted the technical form of letters referred to figures. It was written in this manner:

In wat'ry Aſus *all the world lay drown'd,*
And babbling Boiloi *did the tongues confound.*

It will ſcarcely be ſuppoſed that what was reviſed by the good and venerable Lowth was neceſſary to be ſoftened, becauſe ſome lines were, according to the modern ſenſe, thought to be rather too *democratical.* Yet ſuch is the effect of the French revolution, that what was formerly conſidered as the generous glow of the indignant mind at the ſight of deſpotic oppreſſion, is now marked with the appellation of *Jacobiniſm.*

But the alterations, which were made in the former in compliance with the ſpirit of the times, were deemed abſolutely neceſſary in the latter from a ſenſe of moral and political propriety. It is the duty of a teacher to inſtil into the minds of youth the pureſt conſtitutional principles. He muſt have the care to reconcile

concile the lofty ſentiments of Republican liberty, which occur in the peruſal of the Greek and Latin writers, with a loyal ſubmiſſion to that form of Monarchy, which the experience of ages has proved to be the beſt calculated to inſure private ſecurity, and to promote public happineſs, in this country. In this view, it was found that the author of the *Poetical Chronology* had caſt a ſhade of unmerited obloquy over the character of ſome Engliſh Princes. Much correction was therefore required. For the lines from Charles the Firſt to the preſent reign incluſive, with the exception of the reign of James the Second, the writer of theſe ſheets is reſponſible. The imperfections of the Introduction, of the additions and alterations, and of the Notes on the whole, are alſo to be attributed to him.

*** The rapid ſale of the firſt impreſſion has proved the public ſenſe of the utility of the plan. Care has been taken to correct and improve the preſent edition.

R. V.

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INTRODUCTION.

CHRONOLOGY is the art of computing time, and of fixing dates.

In the early periods of the world, time was meaſured only by the ſeaſons, by the revolutions of the ſun and moon; many ages elapſed before the mode of computation by dating events was generally adopted. Even in Herodotus and Thucydides, we find no certain dates for the events recorded in their hiſtories. No attempt was made to eſtabliſh a regular æra, until the time of Ptolemy Philadelphus, who attempted it by comparing and correcting the dates of the Olympiads, the reigns of the Kings of Sparta, and the ſucceſſion of the prieſteſſes of Juno at Argos.

The Chronology of the early parts of ancient hiſtory is full of uncertainty. Even after the adoption of dates, we

find the early hiſtorians very inaccurate in their computations. Ancient Chronology is a long perſpective, bounded by impenetrable clouds, which are thinly chequered with a few glimmerings of doubtful light. In the fabulous and heroic ages, preciſion is not to be expected. But lamentable is the uncertainty reſpecting ſome of the moſt important parts of hiſtory, ſuch as the number of years elapſed ſince the Creation, the origin of the Chineſe Empire, the Egyptian dynaſties, the reign of Seſoſtris, the riſe and fall of the Aſſyrian Empire, the chronology of the Kings of Babylon, of the Median monarchs, and even of the ſucceſſors of Alexander the Great. Moreri has collected in his dictionary ſeventy different opinions on the chronology from the beginning of the world to the birth of Chriſt.

The moſt ſucceſsful laborers in clearing this intricate and rugged path are: Julius Africanus, Euſebius, Syncellus, John of Antioch, Scaliger, Helvicus, Petavius, Uſher, Marſham, Voſſius, Newton, Lenglet, Blair and Playfair. The foundations, on which they have built their ſyſtems, have been:

1. Aſtronomical obſervations, particularly of eclipſes, which were carefully noted and recorded by the ancients, as prognoſtics of the death of princes, and the fall of empires.

2. The teſtimony of credible authors, and conſiſtent hiſtory.

3. Epochs, or fixed, uncontroverted points in hiſtory; ſuch as the Greek *Olympiads*, the foundation of *Rome*, the time of *Nabonaſſar*, the birth of CHRIST, the Arabian *Hegira*, *&c.*

4. Medals,

4. Medals, monuments, and inſcriptions, which have faithfully tranſmitted the dates of many important events.

TIME

May be conſidered as divided into *Days* and *Hours*, and into *Weeks*, *Months* and *Years*.

DAYS.

The word *Day*, in its ſtrict ſenſe, ſignifies only that portion of time, during which any particular part of the earth receives the light of the ſun: called an *artificial* day. In its moſt comprehenſive ſenſe it includes the night alſo, and is called by chronologers a *civil* day, by aſtronomers a *natural* day.

The *civil*, or *natural* day is the ſpace of time, in which the ſun appears to make a revolution round the earth; or, to ſpeak with greater aſtronomical preciſion, the ſpace of time, in which the earth makes one revolution round its own axis.

Various have been the modes, in different nations, of computing the beginning of the day. The Syrians, Babylonians, Perſians and Indians began their day at the riſing of the ſun. The civil day of the Athenians, Arabs, and ancient Gauls began at ſunſet: a mode followed by the Jews in calculating their ſacred day. The ancient Italians computed the civil day from midnight, a computation in common uſe among us. The Mahometans calculate from one twilight to another. The modern Italians begin the firſt hour at ſunſet. The aſtro-

nomical day begins at noon, becauſe that inſtant of time can be aſcertained with the greateſt preciſion.

DIVISIONS OF THE DAY.

The moſt obvious diviſion was that of morning and evening. A ſecond diviſion was afterwards introduced: noon and midnight.

The Jews and Romans adopted a ſubdiviſion, into four parts of the day, and four vigils or watches of the night. The *firſt* began at ſix in the morning; the *ſecond* at nine; the *third* at noon; and the *fourth* at three in the afternoon. The *firſt* watch of the night began at ſix in the evening; the *ſecond* at nine; the *third* at midnight; and the *fourth* at three in the morning. Another diviſion in uſe, not only among the Jews and Romans, but alſo among the Greeks, reckoned the firſt quarter from ſunſet to midnight; the ſecond from midnight to ſunriſe; the third, or morning watch, from ſunriſe to noon; and the fourth from noon to ſunſet.

Among the Romans, the parts of the civil day were: *Media nox*, midnight; *Mediæ noctis inclinatio*, the turn of the night; *Gallicinium*, cock crowing; *Conticinium*, the time when the cocks ceaſe to crow, the calm of the night; *Diluculum*, the dawn; *Mane*, the morning, which laſted till noon; *Meridies*, noon or mid-day; *Meridiei inclinatio, tempus pomeridianum*, afternoon; *Solis occaſus*, ſunſet; *Veſper*, the evening; *Crepuſculum*, the twilight; *Prima fax, primæ tenebræ*,

nebræ, the beginning of darkneſs; *Concubium*, bed-time; *Nox intempeſta*, which laſted till midnight.

HOURS.

The diviſion of days into hours was received by the Greeks from the Babylonians. An hour is the 24th part of an aſtronomical day; or that portion of time, in which the ſun appears to move fifteen degrees from, or towards, the horizon.

The Greeks and Romans divided the day and the night into twelve hours each; hence an hour of the day was longer, and an hour of the night ſhorter, in ſummer than in winter. They were only equal at the equinoxes.

The hours of the day were reckoned from ſunriſe. Thus, at the equinoxes the *firſt* hour anſwers to our ſeven o'clock, the *ſecond* to eight, the *third* to nine, the *fourth* to ten, the *fifth* to eleven, the *ſixth* to twelve, the *ſeventh* to one in the afternoon, as in the following table:

Sun riſe.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Sun ſet.	Ancient.
VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	I	II	III	IV	V	VI		Modern.

The Jews began the day, like the Romans, at ſunriſe. In this manner St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke reckon the hours; but St. John counts them, as we do, from midnight to noon, and from noon to midnight.

The methods of indicating the hours have been various. In Egypt the prieſts proclaimed the hours like our watchmen. Anaximander of Miletus introduced a ſun-dial in Greece, in

the time of Cyrus; and Papirius Curſor placed one in the capitol of Rome, A. C. 306. As this could only be uſed while the ſun was ſhining, a water-clock, or hour glaſs made with water, called *Clepſydra*, was invented by the Egyptians, and adopted in Rome by Scipio Naſica.

It is not known at what time clocks were invented. The firſt mentioned in hiſtory was in the poſſeſſion of Pepin, King of France, in the eighth century. Huygens invented the pendulum. The moſt accurate diviſion of time at ſea has been attained by the late Mr. Harriſon's time-piece.

An hour is divided into ſixty equal parts, called *minutes*, a minute into ſixty *ſeconds*, and a ſecond into ſixty *thirds*.

WEEKS.

It is probable that this meaſure of time took place from the creation of the world. The Greeks, however, were unacquainted with this diviſion. They divided the month of thirty days into three decades: the firſt of the *beginning*, the ſecond of the *middle*, and the third of the *end*, of the month. Thus the fifth day of the month was called the fifth day of the *firſt* decade; the fifteenth was called the fifth day of the *ſecond* decade; and the twenty-fifth was the fifth of the *third* decade.

The Romans gave to each of the ſeven days the name of one of the heavenly bodies: thus *Dies Solis*, the day of the Sun; *Lunæ*, of the Moon; *Martis*, of Mars; *Mercurii*, of Mercury; *Jovis*, of Jupiter; *Veneris*, of Venus; and *Saturni*, of Saturn.

The

The Engliſh language has derived the names of ſome of the days from the ſame ſource, viz. Sunday, Monday, Saturday. Wedneſday, Thurſday and Friday take the names of the Saxon and Daniſh deities, *Wodin*, *Thor* and *Freya*. From *Tuy*, the Saxon name of Mars, is derived Tueſday.

MONTHS.

This diviſion appears to have been uſed before the Flood. As it is naturally framed by the revolution of the moon, the months of all nations were originally lunar. In a more enlightened period the revolutions of the moon were compared with thoſe of the ſun, and the limits of the months, as the component parts of a year, were fixed with greater preciſion.

The Romans divided the month into Calends, Nones and Ides. The Calends were the firſt day of the month. The Nones were the ſeventh, and the Ides the fifteenth, of *March*, *May*, *July* and *October*. In the other months the Nones fell on the fifth, and the Ides on the thirteenth. The following lines may aſſiſt the memory:

Sex Maius Nonas, October, Julius et Mars;
Quatuor at reliqui: dabit Idus quilibet octo.

The days, according to this form, were counted backwards: thus the 18th of October is called the 15th day before the Calends of November, &c.

A TABLE

A TABLE of the ROMAN CALENDAR.

	Mar. Mai. Jul. Octob.	*Jan. Aug. Decemb.*	*Apr. Jun. Sept. Nov.*	*Februarius.*
1	Kalendæ.	Kalendæ.	Kalendæ.	Kalendæ.
2	6. Nonas.	4. Nonas.	4. Non.	4. Nonas.
3	5. Nonas.	3. Nonas.	3. Non.	3. Nonas.
4	4. Nonas.	Prid. Nonas.	Prid. Non.	Pridie Non.
5	3. Nonas.	Nonæ.	Nonæ.	Nonæ.
6	Prid. Non.	8. Idus.	8. Idus.	8. Idus.
7	Nonæ.	7. Idus.	7. Idus.	7. Idus.
8	8. Idus.	6. Idus.	6. Idus.	6. Idus.
9	7. Idus.	5. Idus.	5. Idus.	5. Idus.
10	6. Idus.	4. Idus.	4. Idus.	4. Idus.
11	5. Idus.	3. Idus.	3. Idus.	3. Idus.
12	4. Idus.	Prid. Idus.	Prid. Idus.	Pridie Idus
13	3. Idus.	Idus.	Idus.	Idus.
14	Prid. Idus.	19. Kal.	18. Kal.	16. Kal.
15	Idus.	18. Kal.	17. Kal.	15. Kal.
16	17. Kal.	17. Kal.	16. Kal.	14. Kal.
17	16. Kal.	16. Kal.	15. Kal.	13. Kal.
18	15. Kal.	15. Kal.	14. Kal.	12. Kal.
19	14. Kal.	14. Kal.	13. Kal.	11. Kal.
20	13. Kal.	13. Kal.	12. Kal.	10. Kal.
21	12. Kal.	12. Kal.	11. Kal.	9. Kal.
22	11. Kal.	11. Kal.	10. Kal.	8. Kal.
23	10. Kal.	10. Kal.	9. Kal.	7. Kal.
24	9. Kal.	9. Kal.	8. Kal.	6. Kal.
25	8. Kal.	8. Kal.	7. Kal.	5. Kal.
26	7. Kal.	7. Kal.	6. Kal.	4. Kal.
27	6. Kal.	6. Kal.	5. Kal.	3. Kal.
28	5. Kal.	5. Kal.	4. Kal.	Pridie Ka-
29	4. Kal.	4. Kal.	3. Kal.	lendas.
30	3. Kal	3. Kal.	Pridie Ka-	
31	Prid. Kal.	Pridie Kal.	lendas.	

YEARS.

YEARS.

The year was commonly divided into twelve months; and a month generally contained 30 days.

The ancient Hebrew months conſiſted of 30 days each, except the laſt, which contained 35. Thus the year contained 365 days: an intercalary month at the end of 120 years ſupplied the difference.

The Athenian months conſiſted of 30 and 29 days alternately, according to the regulation of Solon. They began on the new moon neareſt to the ſummer ſolſtice, in the following order:

Hecatombæon	30	Poſeideon	30
Metageitnion	29	Gamelion	29
Boedromion	30	Elaphebolion	30
Mæmacterion	29	Munychion	29
Pyanepſion	30	Thargelion	30
Antheſterion	29	Scirrophorion	29

This calculation produced a year of 354 days; or, as each lunation, or lunar month, conſiſts of 29 days, 12 hours, 45 minutes, 354 days and a little more than a third of a day. A ſolar month contains 30 days, 10 hours, 29 minutes. To reconcile the difference between the ſolar and the lunar year, Meton added ſeven *emboliſmic*, or *intercalary* months, during a *cycle*, or revolution, of 19 years.

Whenever a complete year, or a ſeries of years, is mentioned, a ſolar year is always underſtood.

The

The Roman months, in the time of Romulus, were thus divided and numbered:

Martius	31	Sextilis	30
Aprilis	30	September	30
Maius	31	October	31
Junius	30	November	30
Quintilis	31	December	30

Senſible of the great deficiency of this computation, Numa Pompilius added January and February, and made a year of 355 days. Julius Cæſar finding the year eſtabliſhed by Numa ten days ſhorter than the ſolar year, ſupplied the difference, regulated the months according to their preſent meaſure, and added an intercalary day every fourth year to the month of February, reckoning twice the 24th of that month, which was the 6th *(ſextilis)* of the Calends of March. Hence the fourth year was called *bis-ſextilis*.

In honour of Julius Cæſar, Quintilis was called *Julius*; for a ſimilar reaſon, Sextilis received the name of *Auguſtus*.

Still this computation was not perfectly accurate. As the true ſolar year contains only 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes, in the courſe of 131 years there was a difference of one day. Pope Gregory reformed the calendar in 1582, by cutting off 11 days, and calling the 4th of October the 15th. This alteration of the ſtyle was gradually adopted in other countries, but not received in England before the year 1752. In Ruſſia, in ſome of the Swiſs Cantons, and in the Eaſt, the old ſtyle is ſtill preſerved.

The

The beginning of the year has by no means been the ſame among different nations. The Chaldæans, the Egyptians, and the Jews in civil affairs, began the year at the autumnal equinox. The eccleſiaſtical year of the Jews, the year of the Perſians, of the Romans under Romulus, began in the ſpring: a mode ſtill followed by many of the Italian ſtates. Both the equinoxes, and the ſummer ſolſtice, were each the date of ſome of the Grecian ſtates. The Roman year from the time of Numa commenced on the calends of January. The Arabs and the Turks compute from the 16th of July. The Chriſtian clergy formerly began the year on the 25th of March; a method obſerved in Britain, particularly in civil affairs, until the alteration of the ſtyle in 1752, when our year commenced on the firſt of January. Before that time it was uſual to write the double date in the form of a fraction, from the 1ſt of January to the 25th of March: thus February 20th, $174\frac{2}{3}$, for 1743 of the preſent ſtyle.

CYCLES.

A Cycle is a perpetual circulation, and recurrence of the ſame parts of time. The moſt remarkable are: the *Cycle of the Moon*, the *Cycle of the Sun*, the *Indiction*, and the *Julian Period*.

CYCLE OF THE MOON.

The *Cycle of the Moon* is a revolution of nineteen years, during which the ſame poſitions and appearances of the moon regularly return within an hour and a half of the ſame time, in which they took place nineteen years before.

This

This cycle was obſerved in Greece by Meton, about 430 years before Chriſt, and the diſcovery was ſo much admired, that the computation was engraved in letters of gold; hence the year of this cycle, which anſwers to any given year, is called the *Golden Number* of that year.

To find the Cycle of the Moon, or the Golden Number, add 1 to the given year of Chriſt, and divide the ſum by 19: the quotient will be the number of lunar cycles elapſed ſince the Chriſtian æra, and the remainder the golden number for the given year. If nothing remains, the cycle is 19. Thus the Golden Number for 1795 is 10, and the number of lunar cycles ſince the birth of Chriſt is 94.

Number 1 is added, becauſe in the firſt year of Chriſt the Golden Number was 2.

CYCLE OF THE SUN.

The *Cycle of the Sun* is a revolution of 28 years, which brings the ſame days of the week to the ſame days of the month. In this period the place of the ſun returns to the ſame ſigns and degrees of the ecliptic on the ſame months and days.

To find the ſolar cycle of a given year, add 9 to the given number, and divide the ſum by 28; the quotient will be the number of ſolar cycles ſince the birth of Chriſt, and the remainder is the cycle for the given year. If nothing remains, the cycle is 28. Thus the ſolar cycle for 1795 is 12, and the number of ſolar cycles ſince the Chriſtian æra 64.

Numbe

Number 9 is added, becauſe our Saviour was born in the 10th year of this cycle, 9 years of which were conſequently paſt.

INDICTION.

The *Indiction* is a revolution of 15 years, uſed by the Romans, to fix the time of ſome public payments. It was eſtabliſhed A. D. 312.

To find the Indiction, add 3 to the given year, becauſe Chriſt was born in the year anſwering to the 4th of this cycle, and divide the ſum by 15: the remainder will be the year of the Indiction. Thus the year 1795 is the 13th.

JULIAN PERIOD.

If the cycles of the Sun, of the Moon, and of Indictions, are multiplied by one another, the product will be 7980, called the *Julian Period*.

The vulgar æra of the birth of Chriſt, ſometimes called the Dionyſian, from Dionyſius Exiguus, who fixed it in the year 527, was about the end of the year 4713 of the Julian Period. According to this calculation, the firſt year of his age was the 4714th of that period. If therefore to the year of Chriſt we add 4713, the ſum will be the year of the Julian Period. Thus 1795 is the 6508th year.

DOMINICAL LETTER.

The firſt ſeven letters of the Alphabet are placed in the common calendars to ſhow on what days of the week the days

of the month fall during the year. That letter, which is placed againſt *Sunday*, is printed in capitals, and called the *Dominical letter*. As a common Julian year conſiſts of 365 days, if this number be divided by 7, the number of days in a week, there will remain one day. Were there no remainder, the year would conſtantly begin on the ſame day of the week. But ſince 1 remains, the next year muſt begin on the next day of the week. Hence, when January begins on Sunday, *A* is the *Sunday*, or *Dominical* letter for that year. As the next year begins on *Monday*, and the Sunday will fall on the ſeventh day, marked with the letter *G*, that letter will be the Dominical letter during the year. According to this ſeries, the letters would be ſucceſſively in a retrograde order: *G, F, E, D, C, B, A*, were not this order interrupted by the *leap year*, which derives its name from this very circumſtance, viz. that in this year the Dominical letter *leaps* from one letter to another; i. e. it is one letter to the end of February, and another letter from that time.

To find the Dominical letter, place the letters and figures thus:

A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.

To the given year add the fourth part of that number, omitting fractions: divide the ſum by 7, and the remainder, deducted from 7, will give the figure, over which the Dominical letter for that year is found. Thus the Dominical letter for 1795 is D.

EPACTS.

EPACTS.

The *Epact*, emphatically ſo called, is the number of days added to the Lunar, to make it equal to the Solar, year. The Solar year conſiſting of 365 days, and the Lunar of twelve lunations of 30 and 29 days alternately, amounting to 354 days only, the latter is 11 days ſhorter than the former. If therefore the moon were new on the 1ſt of January in any year, it would be 11 days old on the 1ſt of January in the ſucceeding year: and this number would be the Epact for that year. As the ſame exceſs will ariſe in this year as in the preceding, the Epact of the next year will be 22. The Epact of the following year will be 33. But 33 days being more than one lunation, that year will contain 13 moons: deduct therefore 30 days, the period of the additional moon, from 33, and the remainder, 3, will be the Epact of the following year; or, in other words, on the 1ſt of January on that year the moon will be three days old. The Epact of the next year will be $3 + 11 = 14$.

To find the Epact, multiply the Golden Number by 11, from that product ſubtract 11, divide the remainder by 30, and this remainder is the Epact. If nothing remains, 30 is the Epact. Thus the Epact for 1795 is 9.

Beſides the annual, there is likewiſe a menſtrual, Epact, ariſing from the difference between a Calendar, and Lunar, month. This difference, however, amounting only to one day in each month, and the exceſs, that had been gained in January, being again loſt in February, through the ſhortneſs of that month, this Epact in reality commences with the

month of March. Allowing then one day for the month of March, and adding one day to it for each ſucceeding month to the end of the year, we ſhall readily find the Epact for each month. This Epact is known among ſeamen by no other name than *The number of the month from March.*

TO FIND THE AGE OF THE MOON.

By the help of theſe two Epacts the age of the Moon on any given day in any year may be exactly aſcertained. By adding theſe two Epacts to the day of the month, on which the moon's age is required, the ſum of the three numbers will give the age of the moon on that day. Thus, it is required to know how old the moon will be on July the 2d, 1795. The annual Epact of this year is 9. Four months having elapſed from March incluſive, the menſtrual Epact on July 2d, is 4. On that day, therefore, the moon will be 15 days old, i. e. it will be full moon.

POETICAL CHRONOLOGY

OF

ANCIENT HISTORY.

Anno Mundi. O'ER ſixteen cent'ries the revolving ſun,
1656 And ſummers fift[illegible]-ſix, his courſe had run,
When ſinful man drew heav'n's juſt vengeance down,
In one wide Deluge the whole earth to drown.

1757 In ſev'nteen fifty-ſev'n, ſee Babel riſe
In tow'ring pride, to emulate the ſkies!
When God, t' enlarge earth's habitable bounds, *
Scatters the people, and their tongues confounds.

* The diſperſion of mankind, and the increaſe of population, were the natural conſequence of the confuſion of tongues, and probably the object of the divine interpoſition.

A. M.
1771 Seventeen ſev'nty-one fierce Nimrod ſaw;
Then one man's pleaſure gave the public law:
Rouſing no more the lion from his den,
The hero's taſk is now the chace of men.
'Tis virtue, glory, to enſlave and kill,
And duty to obey a tyrant's will.
The mighty hunter, to a monarch grown,
In riſing Babylon exalts his throne.
Now too, proud Nineveh firſt lifts her head,
And ſtates and cities in the eaſt are ſpread:
Egyptian Tanis, Memphis, Thebes and Thin; *
Here th' everlaſting pyramids begin. †
From earlier date preſumptuous China brings
The long ſucceſſion of her mighty kings. ‡

Two

* The four dynaſties, or ſtates, into which Egypt was divided after the reign of Meſraïm, or Menes, the firſt king of that country.

† Many writers are of opinion that the pyramids were built before the flood. The moſt probable conjecture is, that they were erected for monuments to gratify the pride, or ſatisfy the ſuperſtition, of the Egyptian monarchs. M. Volney derives the word *pyramid* from *bour-a-mit, a cave of the dead.* Of the largeſt, the baſe is 2640 feet in circumference, each ſide 660, and the perpendicular height about 500. How vain is the attempt to force the natural courſe of human events! Theſe ſtupendous monuments, erected to perpetuate the memory of the monarchs, have not been able to reſcue their names from oblivion.

‡ The Chineſe date the reign of their firſt emperor Fo-hi, from the year

A. M.

2083 Two thouſand eighty-three, the promis'd land
The patriarch ſeeks, led by Jehovah's hand.

2162 Twenty one ſixty-two, Theſſalian Jove *
His father Saturn from his kingdom drove,
And on Olympus fixt his court on high;
Hence ſuperſtition rais'd him to the ſky.

2180 Twenty-one eighty, ſo the fable ſings,
Hails Inachus the firſt of Grecian kings. †

---

year of the world 1052. A late writer, M. de Guignes, has with great ingenuity endeavoured to prove that an Egyptian colony ſettled in China about the year of the world 2882. He obſerves, among many other national coincidences between the Egyptians and the Chineſe, that the two firſt dynaſties of the annals of China are thoſe of the kings of Thebes and Upper Egypt.

* Jupiter is ſaid to have begun his reign at the age of 62, in Theſſaly, where he reigned 60 years. He vanquiſhed the Titans, the ſons of his grandfather Ouranos, who claimed his kingdom, and forced them to fly from Greece. His brother Pluto obtained the command of the weſt, and Neptune of the ſea coaſt. Jupiter deſtroyed a band of robbers, who infeſted the country, and concealed themſelves in the Theſſalian and Macedonian foreſts; the greateſt inſtance, in thoſe times, of valor and heroiſm. His laws were remarked for their wiſdom and ſtrictneſs. As he kept his court on Mount Olympus in Theſſaly, heaven has been diſtinguiſhed by that name in claſſical poetry, ſince Jupiter obtained the chief place among the divinities of pagan mythology.

† Inachus, born in Cappadocia, was the ſon of Oceanus, brother of Saturn; conſequently nearly related to Jupiter. He was the firſt king of Argos.

Twenty-

A. M.

2275 Twenty-two hundred ſev'nty-five, behold
Joſeph to Egypt by his brothers ſold.
Tho' long the ſtorms of adverſe fortune low'r,
Yet, to protect the good, heav'n's gracious pow'r
Can 'mid the thorns of woe make roſes bloom,
And to a palace change a dungeon's gloom.

2448 Cecrops, in twenty-four and forty-eight,*
Form'd from thirteen ſmall tribes † th' Athenian ſtate.
He firſt to Greece the laws of Egypt brought,
To worſhip Egypt's Gods the Greeks were taught:
What time Deucalion fled th' uſurping main;
No gen'ral deluge, as the poets feign;
It rag'd, to narrow Theſſaly confin'd, ‡
Nor dar'd again the ruin of mankind.
Then too l'hœnician Cadmus croſt the main: §
Thebes was the ſeat of his Bœotian reign.
2513 Iſrael, in twenty-five thirteen, were led
From Egypt's land, and in the deſart fed.

---

* This event is placed by the Parian Chronicle in the year of the world 2422.

† Univ. Hiſt. Ch. xviii, ſect. 4.

‡ The courſe of the river Peneus being ſtopped by an earthquake between Oſſa and Olympus, an inundation, increaſed by an uncommon fall of rain, covered the plains of Theſſaly. Deucalion, and many of his ſubjects, ſaved themſelves on Mount Parnaſſus.

§ This event is fixed by the Parian Chronicle in the year 2485.

Spite

A. M.

Spite of the miracles of Moſes' rod,
The ſtiff-neck'd people made a calf their God.
Chaſtis'd, they murmur'd ſtill, their chief revil'd,
And forty years they wander'd in the wild.
Mean time, a colony from Egypt ſails,
And o'er the ſons of Inachus prevails;
His race no more the Argive ſceptre ſways,
Argos Egyptian Danaus obeys.

Now mighty Joſhua leads the Hebrew band
To wars, to triumphs, and the promis'd land.
Six years their arms are by Jehovah bleſt:
2559 In twenty-five and fifty-nine they reſt.
Oft the ungrateful race their God provoke,
As often bend beneath a foreign yoke;
They mourn, repent, and to their God return,
No longer can Jehovah's anger burn.
He raiſes Judges to aſſert their cauſe,
Conduct their battles, and diſpenſe their laws.
Brave Othniel frees them from proud Chuſan's* reign,
2647 Eglon's † in twenty-ſix by Ehud ſlain,
And forty-ſev'n.——When Pelops rul'd in peace,
And gave a Phrygian name to ſouthern Greece; ‡

* King of Meſopotamia.

† King of the Moabites.

‡ Peloponneſus.

When

A. M.

When Deb'rah guided Barak's conqu'ring ſword,
The ſon of Bel * became Aſſyria's Lord.
2737 In twenty-ſev'n and thirty-ſev'n he ſhone,
And fix'd at Nineveh his awful throne.
Not long ere Tyre † roſe miſtreſs of the ſea,
Rich by her commerce, while by valor free;
2768 And Gideon's ſon, ‡ to fix his impious reign,
His brethren ſlew; himſelf by woman ſlain.
The famous combats of Amphitryon's ſon; §
All the Athenian cantons join'd in one
By Theſeus; the great demigods of Greece; ||
The mighty heroes of the golden fleece; ||||

Orpheus,

---

* Ninus. According to Cteſias, and Diodorus Siculus, the Aſſyrian empire was founded in the year of the world 1830. But their accounts are conſidered as fabulous. If we follow the dates of Herodotus, we ſhall fix this event in the year 2774.

† Joſephus informs us that the new city of Tyre was built 240 years before the temple of Solomon.

‡ Abimelech.

§ Herculēs, ſon of Jupiter, and Alcmena, wife of Amphitryon, king of Thebes.

|| Perſeus, Theſeus, Œdipus, Caſtor and Pollux, &c.

|||| Jaſon and the Argonauts. M. Rabaut de St. Etienne, in his Letters to M. Bailly on the primitive Hiſtory of Greece, ingeniouſly endeavours to explain the allegories of the heroic ages, and to prove that they were generally intended to repreſent the motions of the heavenly bodies.

A. M.

Orpheus, Muſæus, Linus,* eldeſt born
Of Phœbus' ſons; the wond'rous age adorn.

2816 While conqu'ring Jephtha Iſrael's cauſe defends;
And proud Semiramis her pow'r extends;
2820 Lo! twenty-eight and twenty weeps the fall
Of ancient Ilion's long defended wall. †
2886 See twenty-eight and eighty-ſix declare
The mighty wonders wrought by Samſon's hair.
Then Iſrael, dazzled with an empty ſhow,
Eager the joys of kingly pomp to know,
Diſdaining freedom, for a tyrant's nod
Begs to exchange the ſceptre of her God.

---

bodies. Thus in the hiſtory of Jaſon, which has formed ſo fruitful a ſubject for the diſplay of poetical imagery, he repreſents the expedition of the Argonauts as exhibiting, under a beautiful allegory, the courſe of the conſtellation *Aries* through the ſky. Jaſon is *Serpentarius*. Scarce has Argo, *the ſhip*, begun his etherial voyage, when Hylas, *Aquarius*, diſappears, and *Hercules* with him. The *Hydra*, the *River*, and all the crew of Jaſon, claim their ſhare in this aſtronomical voyage. It may perhaps be a ſubject of diſcuſſion, whether the Argonauts received their exiſtence and their names from the conſtellations, which they thus repreſent, or whether the latter were diſtinguiſhed by the names of the characters in the Hiſtory of Jaſon; but the whole work deſerves the attention of the hiſtorian and the mythologiſt.

* Ancient Greek poets and muſicians.

† The deſtruction of Troy is fixed by the Parian Chronicle, A. M. 2795.

Yet

A. M.

Yet kings oft merit: Codrus, Athens' pride,
2909 Now ſelf-devoted, for his country died.
A grateful meed to his unrivall'd fame,
Th' Athenians hence ſuppreſs the Royal name.
Jove they declare ſole ſov'reign of the realm,
And place dependent Archons at the helm.
2949 While humbly great, the Royal ſhepherd * ſings
The only glory of the King of Kings.
2988 In twenty-nine and eighty-eight, his ſon
Aroſe, the wiſe, the peaceful Solomon, †
Whoſe pious hands the wond'rous temple rear'd,
2999 One thouſand five years ere our Lord appear'd.
or But lo! he falls, wiſe, pious, juſt no more;
—— For ſlaves to women muſt their Gods adore.
Ante Yet great Jehovah, by remembrance won
Chriſt. Of the good ſire, almoſt forgives his ſon;
1005 Not quite forgives; for now his wide domain
No more obeys his ſon Roboam's reign.
975 Nine hundred ſev'nty-five, ten tribes were led
By Jeroboam, and from Judah fled.
The rebel, to ſuſtain a doubtful cauſe,
Belying Moſes' God, retains his laws.

---

* David.

† Solomon began to reign A. M. 2988. In the fourth year of his reign, he began the temple, and completed it in ſeven years, A. M. 2999, or 1005 years before Chriſt.

Go,

A. C.

Go, Iſrael, to thy calves for ſuccour call,
930 Nine hundred thirty, build Samaria's wall. *
Yet Shalmaneſer ſhall avenge thy crimes, †
And drag thee captive to far diſtant climes.

Th' Egyptian monarchs now are mighty grown:
All pow'r abſorb'd in that of Thebes alone.
966 Nine hundred ſixty-ſix, Seſoſtris view, ‡
Whom ſceptred ſlaves in golden harneſs drew.

Now raptur'd Greece hears lofty Homer ſing §
Achilles' wrath, of mighty woes the ſpring.

---

* Omri, king of Iſrael, bought the hill Someron, or Samaria, for two talents of ſilver, and built upon it the city of that name, which became the reſidence of the kings of Iſrael.

† Shalmaneſer, or Salmanaſar, the ſon of Tiglath-Pileſer, king of Aſſyria, levelled Samaria to the ground, 721 years A. C. and ſent Hoſhea, king of Iſrael, and all his ſubjects, into captivity, 254 years after the defection from Judah.

‡ The opinion of Sir Iſaac Newton and Sir John Marſham is here followed, who maintain that Seſoſtris is the Seſac or Shiſhac of ſcripture. But the latter ſeems to have little claim to the heroic character, which the former has obtained. The ancient hiſtorians, followed by the generality of modern chronologers, place Seſoſtris about 1700 years before the Chriſtian æra.

§ Various are the opinions of chronologers reſpecting the time, in which Homer and Heſiod floriſhed. The Parian Chronicle places the latter in the year 944, A. C. and the former in 907.

A. C.

Fell diſcord liſtens to the heav'nly lay,
And giddy factions hear their rage away.
While Heſiod's humbler muſe inſtructs the ſwains
In arts of peace, and culture of the plains.

890 Eight hundred ninety *, from Phœnicia's land
Pygmalion's ſiſter ſeeks the Libyan ſtrand.
To injur'd Dido Carthage owes her date;
885 'Twas then Lycurgus fram'd the Spartan ſtate.
The ſtrongeſt walls for her defence he gave; †
He made her patient, temp'rate, firm and brave.

776 Sev'n hundred ſev'nty-ſix th' Olympiad ſees, ‡
At firſt ordain'd by godlike Hercules. §
Of true record the date by Varro fixt,
Till then all fable, or with fable mixt.

---

* Petav. *Ration. Tempor.* l. ii, c. 13.

† Truſting to the valor of the Spartans, Lycurgus ordered that Lacedæmon ſhould not be walled, alleging that bravery intrenched was a ſpecies of cowardice.

‡ The Olympic games, conſiſting of courſing, wreſtling, and other exerciſes, were celebrated every fourth year, and became ſo important, that their computation was uſed to regulate the chronology of the hiſtory of Greece. The Olympic year began with the new moon neareſt to the ſummer Solſtice.

§ Hercules originally eſtabliſhed the Olympic games, 442 years before the Grecian æra of Olympiads, but they had been diſcontinued.

A. C.

753 Sev'n hundred fifty-three * ſaw Rome ariſe:
A vig'rous birth; her king was brave and wiſe.
While with the ſoft Sardanapalus fell
The vaſt Aſſyrian realm and race of Bel.
Three kingdoms from its ruins took their date;
Tiglath renew'd the fall'n Aſſyrian ſtate. †
747 Fam'd Nabonaſſar reign'd in Babylon; ‡
681 Theſe Eſar-Haddon join'd at length in one. §

The Medes, long ranging uncontroll'd and free,
Grown worſe than ſlaves in lawleſs liberty,

---

* The computation of Varro is followed here, fixing the foundation of Rome in the beginning of the fourth year of the ſixth Olympiad. Fabius Pictor places it in the firſt year of the eighth; or, according to the calculation of the learned Uſher, 748 years before the Chriſtian æra.

† Tiglath-Pileſer reigned in the year 747, A. C. He is ſuppoſed to have been the ſon of Pul, who has been thought to be the Belus of profane hiſtory, and the founder of the Aſſyrian monarchy.

‡ The reign of Nabonaſſar forms an important æra in chronology. It was, according to Ptolemy, the beginning of the aſtronomical obſervations of the Chaldæans. Hence it fixes the date of what is commonly called Ptolemy's aſtronomical canon.

§ He ſucceeded Sennacherib in the kingdom of Aſſyria. Taking advantage of an interregnum in Babylon, he annexed that city to his empire. He conquered Syria, Egypt and Ethiopia, and reduced Iſrael and Judah. He was ſucceeded by Saoſduchinus, the Nebuchadonoſor of ſcripture.

By

A. C.

By juſt reſtraint true freedom to regain,
Embrace the needful yoke, and court the rein;
They chooſe a king: juſt Deioces began
The Median reign*, and founded Ecbatan.

603 Six hundred three ſaw ſev'n fam'd ſages riſe; †
Science they taught, and made their hearers wiſe.
Truths more ſublime, yet eaſier underſtood,
Confucius taught; ‡ he made his hearers good.

560 Five hundred ſixty, the humane and brave,
Who reign'd to bleſs, and conquer'd but to ſave,
Cyrus united with the Median band
Perſia's rough ſons, not yet by ſloth unmann'd.

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* On the ruins of the Aſſyrian empire roſe the Median monarchy. The Medes, having revolted from Sennacherib, became a prey to all the evils of anarchy; 'till a ſenſe of the neceſſity of public order induced them, in the year 710, A. C. to place Deioces on the throne. This monarch, in the book of Judith, is called Arphaxad.

† Solon, the Athenian legiſlator; Thales, of Miletus; Chilo, of Sparta; Pittacus, of Mitylene; Bias, of Priene; Cleobulus, of Lindos; and Periander, king of Corinth. The laſt of theſe had no claim to that honorable title, but the merit of having patronized men of genius and virtue.

‡ Or Con-fut-ſee; the celebrated philoſopher, who civilized the Chineſe, and inculcated the principles of the pureſt morality. He was born 551 years before Chriſt.

Vainly

A. C.

Vainly ſecure in thy ſtupendous wall,*
538 See, Babylon, thy impious monarch's fall! †
Envy the captive from thy chain releas'd,
Now ſlave thyſelf, who hadſt enſlav'd the eaſt.

---

* The walls of Babylon were 87 feet in breadth, 350 feet high, and 60 miles in circumference.

The foundation and improvement of this wonder of the world are enveloped in obſcurity. It is difficult to reconcile the accounts of ſacred and profane hiſtory. The moſt probable opinion is, that Nimrod founded, and Belus enlarged it; that Semiramis adorned it with beautiful buildings; and that Nebuchadnezzar the Great raiſed it to its perfect ſtate of aſtoniſhing magnificence.

† The reduction of Babylon by Cyrus fulfilled the prophecies, which Iſaiah, Jeremiah, and Daniel had been inſpired to denounce againſt that imperious city. The hand of the Almighty was no leſs viſible in the total demolition of Babylon, than on the wall, on which the ſentence of deſtruction was engraved againſt the unfortunate monarch.

In tracing the great decrees of Providence in the ſecondary cauſes, which are uſed as the inſtruments of Almighty power, we may remark that the waters of the Euphrates, which had been diverted to open a paſſage to the troops of Cyrus, were ſuffered to overflow the whole country, and reduce it to a moraſs. The bricks, which formed the materials of the celebrated walls and palaces of Babylon, were made of clay, mixed with ſtraw, and dried in the ſun. Wanting the firmneſs of coheſion, their ſurface was liable to be continually diminiſhed by the heavy rains, 'till at length, being ſuffered to decay, they were totally reduced to mud, and ſwept away by the violence of the torrents. So complete is the deſtruction of this wonderful city, and ſo literally were the prophecies fulfilled, that the opinions on its former ſituation are founded on the moſt vague and fanciful conjectures.

A. C.

The pious victor sets from bondage free
The sons of Judah; such was heav'n's decree. *
Full sev'nty years † beneath the tyrant's nod
The rebel race had groan'd, and learn'd to fear their God.

510 Five hundred ten to Athens freedom brings; ‡
509 With equal ardor Rome dethrones her kings. §
Proud Tarquin's cause Porsenna would maintain, ||
Hippias's great Darius ||| ; both in vain.

'Twixt Greece and Persia endless hate ensues;
480 Xerxes' vast host four hundred eighty views;
The sire's defeat repeated by the son,
And Salamis surpassing Marathon. §§

The

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* Isaiah, ch. xliv, 28.

† Jeremiah, ch. xxv, 11. Daniel, ch. ix, 2.

‡ The extinction of the reign of the family of Pisistratus by the Alcmæonidæ. Statues were erected to Harmodius and Aristogiton, who had put to death Hipparchus, son of Pisistratus.

§ Tarquin was banished from Rome, after the violation of Lucretia by his son. To the King Consuls were substituted.

|| Porsenna, king of Etruria, undertook to replace Tarquin on the throne.

||| Hippias, tyrant of Athens, fled to the court of Darius, king of Persia.

§§ In 490, the forces of Darius, consisting of 110,000 men had been defeated by 11,000 Athenians and Platæans in the plains of Marathon, near Athens.

Xerxes,

A. C.

The victors mutual jealouſy alarms;
Perſia's aveng'd of Greece by Grecian arms.*
Thrice nine long years the rival cities fought:
404 Succeſs four hundred four to Sparta brought; †
When in fall'n Athens, who ſo long maintain'd
The public freedom, Thirty Tyrants reign'd.

The Spartans now proud Aſia's fall deſign;
Their ready arms the brave Ten Thouſand join; ‡

Xerxes, his ſon, invaded Greece with an army of 700,000 foot and 400,000 horſe. His numbers of all denominations amounted, according to Herodotus, to about five millions. Over the flower of this prodigious army, the Grecians obtained a ſignal victory near the iſland of Salamis; and Xerxes was obliged to make a precipitate retreat over the Helleſpont into Aſia. In the next year Mardonius, whom he had left in Greece with 300,000 men, was defeated by 120,000 Greeks at the battle of Platæa.

* The Peloponneſian war, in which the Athenians and the Lacedemonians were the principal belligerent powers.

† Athens was taken by Lyſander, after a ſiege of ſix months. Thirty commiſſioners were ſent from Sparta to keep the Athenians in ſubjection.

‡ Ten thouſand Greeks, who went to the aſſiſtance of Cyrus the younger, when that Prince made war againſt his brother Artaxerxes Mnemon, king of Perſia, in the year 401, A. C. After the death of Cyrus in the engagement near Babylon, the Grecian army, under the conduct of Xenophon, whoſe valor and prudence as a general are only equalled by the elegance of his ſtyle, retreated through Armenia and Paphlagonia. This expedition has been celebrated in hiſtory under the title of the retreat of the Ten Thouſand.

Who,

A. C.

Who, giv'n by fortune to their foes a prey,
Thro' foes, thro' floods, thro' deſarts urg'd their way;
Quell'd adverſe force, evaded cloſe deceit,
Greater than conqu'rors by a bold retreat.

400 Four hundred ſtains the chronologic page,
When the fell pow'r of democratic rage
Doom'd Socrates, the virtuous and the wiſe,*
Blind ſuperſtition's patient ſacrifice.

396 Ageſilaus ſhook the Perſian throne,
'Till call'd to Sparta to defend his own.

395 The Grecians leagu'd her growing pow'r oppoſe;
Reſtor'd by Conon, Athens' walls aroſe.

390 Three hundred ninety rais'd the Roman wall,
When brave Camillus drove the victor Gaul.
Henceforth the Roman ſtory truth may boaſt,
Doubtful before: her annals now were loſt. †

363 Three hundred ſixty-three, war rages wide,
And Mantinea rolls her bloody tide. ‡

---

* The real cauſe of the condemnation of Socrates appears to have been the offence, which his intimacy with Critias and Alcibiades gave to the democratic party in Athens. Anytus and the reſt of his enemies eaſily inflamed the ſuperſtition of the populace againſt this great man, by a miſrepreſentation of the doctrine, which he taught, of one ſupreme being.

† The Roman archives were deſtroyed when the Gauls burned the city.

‡ A battle between the Thebans and Lacademonians, in which Epaminondas, the general of the former, loſt his life in the moment of victory.

Thebes,

A. C.

Thebes, crown'd with conqueſt in the martial ſtriſe,
Too dearly purchas'd with her hero's life,
Curſes the day, when Sparta was undone,
And mourns the battle, which ſhe bravely won.
Epaminondas fall'n, her glories fail'd:
Wiſe Philip's * well-conducted arms prevail'd;
335 No more, three hundred thirty-five ſhe ſtood:
His ſon † immers'd her in her people's blood.
330 Three hundred thirty, Perſia's empire ends: ‡
Great Alexander Cyrus' throne aſcends.
Short was his reign: the eighth returning ſpring
Stopt in mid triumph the victorious king. §

One horn cut off, lo! four new horns ariſe; ‖
301 Three hundred one divides the mighty prize. ‖ ‖

While

---

* King of Macedon.

† Alexander the Great.

‡ After the battle of Arbela, in which the army of Darius was totally routed, Alexander became maſter of the empire of Aſia.

§ He died at Babylon in the 33d year of his age, of a fever, occaſioned by his debaucheries, and left a laſting monument of the vanity of human proſperity.

‖ Daniel viii, 8. See Wintle's *Daniel*, a work full of critical ſagacity, ſound judgment, and deep learning.

‖ ‖ The battle of Ipſus in Phrygia decided the fate of Alexander's poſſeſſions.

A. C.

While in long war the rival kings contend,
O'er Latium Rome's victorious arms extend.

275 Pyrrhus, two hundred ſev'nty-five, retires,
Inflam'd no more by falſe ambition's fires. *
At home, by land, now great, Rome turns her eyes
On foreign ſpoils and naval victories.
264 With Carthage, † rival of her pow'r, contends,
Twice twelve long years the doubtful ſtrife depends;
241 Carthage, two hundred forty-one, obey'd, ‡
As Rome advanc'd in glory, Greece decay'd.

---

poſſeſſions. Ptolemy obtained Egypt, Libya, Arabia, and Paleſtine; Caſſander Macedonia and Greece; Lyſimachus Thrace and Bithynia and Seleucus Syria and the reſt of Aſia.

* Pyrrhus, king of Epirus, is ſaid to have formed a deſign of carrying his conqueſts through every part of the earth. Invited by the Tarentines, he landed in Italy to ſubdue the Romans. He defeated them at firſt by his extraordinary ſkill, his ſtrict diſcipline, and the uſe of elephants, unknown before to the Romans. Another bloody and undeciſive battle taught him that the Romans were invincible, and induced him to leave Italy.

† The firſt Punic, or Carthaginian war.

‡ The Carthaginians obtained peace, on condition that they ſhould cede to the Romans all the iſlands ſituated between Africa and Italy, and pay 2000 talents annually during 20 years.

Th'

A. C.

Th' Achæan patriot league, * of gen'rous ſame,
Bore the laſt heroes of the Grecian name. †

218 But Carthage, yet untam'd, the war renew'd; ‡
Hanibal, panting for revenge and blood,
Four times victorious §, half unpeopled Rome.
Three heroes ſprung up, to avert her doom:
Her ſword Marcellus, Fabius was her ſhield,
But Scipio || taught the ſtubborn foe to yield.
202 He croſs'd, two hundred two, the Libyan main,
Avenging Cannæ's loſs on Zama's plain.

170 Foretold of old §§, in hundred ſev'nty's times,
The King, illuſtrious only in his crimes, ||||

Rag'd

---

* The Achæan league was firſt framed A. C. 284 by the inhabitants of Patræ, Dyme, and Pharæ. Joined by ſeveral Grecian ſtates, they became formidable to the Ætolians and to their foreign enemies, 'till the year 146, A. C. when they were defeated in two battles by Q. Metellus, and forced to ſubmit to the Roman power.

† Aratus, Philopœmen.

‡ The ſecond Punic war.

§ 1. Over P. Corn. Scipio, near the river Ticinus. 2. Over Sempronius, on the banks of the Trebia. 3. Over Flaminius, near the lake Thraſymenus. 4. The celebrated battle of Cannæ, over Terentius Varro, and Æmilius Paulus, in which above 40,000 Romans were left in the field of battle.

|| P. Cornelius Scipio Africanus.

§§ Daniel viii, 10.

|||| Antiochus IV, king of Syria, ſurnamed Epiphanes, or the illuſtrious.

A. C.

Rag'd in the blood of Judah's wretched race,
And fix'd his idol in the holy place.
166 But ſoon the valiant Aſmonæans * quell
His impious rage.——Then Macedonia fell, †
The miſtreſs once of empire, now become
A province, vaſſal to victorious Rome.

146 Corinth ſhall hundred forty ſix deplore;
And mighty Carthage, fall'n to riſe no more. ‡

88 Eighty-eight ſaw, and ſhudder'd at the ſight,
The Roman eagles ſelf-oppos'd in fight, §
82 Saw Rome by Sylla's impious arms laid low,
(Arms better us'd to quell the Pontic foe, ‖)
Sunk and enſlav'd; her haughty ſpirit broke,
Tame to the laſh and patient of the yoke.

---

trious. He maſſacred 80,000 perſons in three days at Jeruſalem, and profaned and pillaged the temple.

* Judas Maccabæus and his brothers, of the race of the Aſmonæans.

† Æmilius Paulns vanquiſhed Perſeus king of Macedonia, and reduced that kingdom to a Roman province, A. C. 167.

‡ Carthage was deſtroyed by Pub. Æmilianus Scipio.

§ The civil war between Marius and Sylla.

‖ Mithridates, king of Pontus, whoſe active mind and perſevering ſpirit reſiſted the Roman arms during more than 24 years.

What

A. C.

What tho' the tyrant loos'd her from her chains; *
The curs'd example of the deed remains.
49 Forty-nine ſees again the dire diſgrace. †
Lo, red with ſlaughter of the Roman race,
48 A new dictator from Pharſalia's plains! ‡
He triumphs in his country's fall, and reigns.
44 Brutus in vain recalls paſt liberty; §
For, once a ſlave, Rome dar'd no more be free.
41 With him, in forty-one, fair freedom fell. ‖
31 In thirty-one, let Actium ** bluſhing tell

---

* Sylla, having deſtroyed more than 100,000 Roman citizens, 90 ſenators and 2000 knights, and, inveſted with the title of perpetual dictator, reigned in Rome with an abſolute authority, abdicated his command, and retired to private life, A. C. 79.

Julius Cæſar invades Britain, A. C. 55.

† The civil war between Cæſar and Pompey.

‡ Cæſar defeats Pompey at the battle of Pharſalia.

§ Cæſar is killed by Brutus and Caſſius, the chiefs of the conſpiracy.

‖ Brutus and Caſſius were defeated, at the battle of Philippi, by Mark Antony, and Caius Octavius, who had declared himſelf the adopted ſon of Julius Cæſar, and aſſumed the name of Caius Julius Cæſar Octavianus.

** Octavianus and Antony fought, in the battle of Actium, for the empire of the world. Victory declared for the former, who received Imperial authority, and the title of Auguſtus.

A. C.

How daſtard Romans drew their ſervile ſwords,
For the baſe privilege, the choice of Lords.

Unlook'd for bleſſings crown the riſing age:
The havoc of the dire triumvirs' rage
Auguſtus' mild paternal ſway repays.
Rome lifts her head, the vanquiſh'd world obeys.

A. M. Huſh'd is the din of arms, and tumults ceaſe:
4004 Four thouſand four * has giv'n THE PRINCE OF PEACE.

---

* From this year of the world the Chriſtian æra takes its riſe. But the Saviour of mankind was born four years before, in the beginning of the year of the world 4000, or more properly in the end of the 5th year before the Chriſtian æra.

A SHORT
CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE
OF
The moſt REMARKABLE OCCURRENCES,
FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE
Chriſtian Æra, to the Conqueſt of England.

Anno Domini.

14 DEATH of Auguſtus, who is ſucceeded by Tiberius.
33 The CRUCIFIXION of the SAVIOUR of the world.
37 Caligula Emperor.
40 The name of *Chriſtians* was firſt given, at Antioch, to the diſciples of Chriſt.
41 Claudius.
51 Caractacus, the Britiſh king, carried in chains to Rome.
54 Nero.
61 The Romans defeated in Britain by Boadicea, but again victorious under Paulinus Suetonius.
64 Firſt perſecution of the Chriſtians.

A. D.

68 Galba.

69 Otho, Vitellius, Veſpaſian.

70 Jeruſalem deſtroyed by Titus.

79 Titus.

81 Domitian, the laſt of the twelve Cæſars.

121 Adrian builds a wall from Carliſle to Newcaſtle.

209 Severus builds a wall from the Forth to the Clyde.

286 Carauſius takes poſſeſſion of Britain.

306 Conſtantine.

325 The firſt council held at Nicæa, in Bithynia.

328 Conſtantine removes the ſeat of empire from Rome to Byzantium, then firſt called Conſtantinople.

395 Arcadius and Honorius divide the Roman empire into the Eaſtern and the Weſtern Empire. Arcadius reigns in Conſtantinople, Honorius in Rome.

409 Rome taken by Alaric, king of the Goths.

437 Theodoſius publiſhes his code of laws.

446 Britain invaded by the Scots and Picts.

447 Attila, king of the Huns, ravages a great part of Europe.

449 The Saxons invited into Britain.

476 The end of the Weſtern Roman empire, under Auguſtulus, who is expelled by Odoacer, king of the Heruli, afterwards king of Italy.

The Eaſtern Empire ſubſiſted till the year 1453, when the Emperor Conſtantine was killed, and Conſtantinople taken by the Turks, under the command of Mahomet II.

481 The French monarchy founded by Clovis.

529 Juſtinian publiſhes his code of laws.

533 Juſti-

A. D.

533 Juſtinian publiſhes the Digeſt, or Pandects, a compilation made by Tribonius of the deciſions of the Roman lawyers.

552 The Turkiſh empire eſtabliſhed.

568 The Lombards eſtabliſh their dominion in Italy.

584 Saxon Heptarchy.

622 The flight of Mohammed, commonly called Mahomet, from Mecca to Medina. From this event, in Arabic called *Hegira*, the Mahometan æra begins, computed in lunar years.

632 The beginning of the Perſian æra of *Yezdegird*, the laſt King, when the Arabs became maſters of Perſia.

636 Jeruſalem taken by the Saracens, or Arabs, followers of Mahomet.

653 England invaded by the Danes.

800 Charlemagne founds the empire of Germany, called the Weſtern empire.

827 Egbert, firſt King of England.

872 Alfred.

884 Alfred founds the Univerſity of Oxford.

1017 Canute the Dane, King of England.

1036 Harold I.

1039 Hardicanute.

1042 Edward the Confeſſor.

1065 Harold II.

A POETICAL CHRONOLOGY

OF

ENGLISH HISTORY.

NORMANS.

William the Conqueror.

1066 WHEN years one thouſand and threeſcore and ſix
Had paſs'd, ſince Chriſt in Bethlem's * manger lay,
Then the ſtern Norman, red from Haſtings' † field,
Bruis'd Anglia's realm beneath his iron ſway.

---

* Bethleem. The birth place of our Saviour, ſix miles ſouth of Jeruſalem, in Paleſtine.

† Haſtings. A cinque-port town in Suſſex; near which place Harold, ſon of Godwin, was defeated, on Saturday, October 14th, 1066, by William, Duke of Normandy.

William

A. D.

William Rufus.

1087 One thouſand eighty-ſev'n, ſee Rufus king!
That tyrant, who, transfix'd by Tyrrel's * dart,
No more to ſpoil and ſcourge the groaning land,
† "Bled in the foreſt like a wounded hart." ‡

Henry the Firſt.

1100 When centuries elev'n had roll'd away,
Henry the Firſt aſcended England's throne:

---

* William Rufus, hunting in the New Foreſt in Hampſhire, was wounded by an arrow, ſhot accidentally by Tyrrel, one of his favorites, of which he died, aged 44 years.

† Pope's *Windſor Foreſt*, 184.

‡ In this reign the Holy War, or the Cruſades, began. In the year 1095, Peter the Hermit perſuaded the Chriſtian Princes to arm, in order to recover the Holy Land from the hands of the infidels. According to the loweſt calculation, 1,300,000 men, diſtinguiſhed by a croſs of red cloth, which they wore on the right ſhoulder, marched for Paleſtine. Commanded by Godefroy of Bouillon, Duke of Brabant, they took Jeruſalem in 1099. Theſe wars, during which hiſtorians have particularized ſix different cruſades, laſted almoſt 200 years. In 1187, Saladin, Sultan of Egypt and Syria, defeated Guy of Luſignan, the Chriſtian King of Jeruſalem, and made himſelf maſter of that city.

Twice

A. D.

Twice fourteen winters Cardiff's * gloomy tow'rs
Heard his poor eyeleſs captive brother's moan.

HOUSE OF BLOIS.

Stephen.

1135 When centuries elev'n, years thirty-five,
Were gone, the brave uſurper † Stephen's hand
The ſceptre ſeiz'd; to keep the glitt'ring prize,
How oft he drench'd in blood th' afflicted land!

* Henry the Firſt, ſon of William the Conqueror, ſucceeded his brother, againſt the right of Robert his elder brother, who was then engaged in the holy war. At his return Robert was defeated by Henry, and confined in the Caſtle of Cardiff, in Wales. Henry died at Rouen; his body was buried in the Abbey of Reading, Berks.

† Stephen was ſon of Adela, daughter of William the Conqueror; he uſurped the throne againſt the rights of Matilda, daughter of Henry I. who was married to the Emperor Henry V. and afterwards to Geoffry Plantagenet, Count of Anjou.

The

THE PLANTAGENET RACE.

*Henry the Second.**

1154 When centuries elev'n, years fifty-four,
Had paſs'd, came Second Henry, he, whoſe ſword
Made the fierce Cambrian † tremble, and compell'd
Hibernia's ‡ ſavage ſons to call him Lord.

With Roſamunda § oft, in fragrant bow'rs,
Still by the muſe kept verdant, and romance,
He toy'd the ſummer's day. O ‖ "only weak
Againſt the charms of beauty's pow'rful glance."

---

* Stephen adopted Henry Duke of Normandy, ſon of Matilda the Empreſs and Geoffry Plantagenet; hence the Plantagenet race.

† The inhabitants of Wales.

‡ Ireland.

§ Roſamunda, daughter of Lord Clifford, had a great aſcendant over Henry's heart. To ſecure her from the jealouſy of the Queen, he built a labyrinth at Woodſtock Park, in Oxfordſhire, called *Roſamond's Bower*, where however the Queen found means to diſcover the favorite and take away her life.

‖ Milton's *Paradiſe Loſt*, viii, 532.

Richard

A. D.

*Richard the First.**

1189 Years eighty-nine and centuries elev'n,
Lo Richard, he, who Cœur de Lion hight,
† "Againſt whoſe fury and unmatched force
The awleſs Lion could not wage the fight."

John. ‡

1199 Since the Redeemer of mankind was born
Now twice ſix centuries were almoſt gone,
When, to young Arthur § due, ſee England's crown
Uſurp'd by the deteſted daſtard John.

Perfidious, bloody wretch! The glorious band
Of barons, arm'd in freedom's ſacred cauſe,
Ere long ſhall make thee, baffled tyrant! know,
Britons are ſubject only to the laws.

Th' indignant heroes, preſſing to thy throne,
Shall force thee, burſting with thy ſmother'd rage,
To give the Charter ‖ of fair Liberty;
Dear be their fame to each ſucceeding age!

---

* Son of Henry II.

† Shakeſpeare's *King John*. Act I.

‡ Brother of Richard.

§ Arthur, Duke of Brittany, had been appointed heir by Richard I. his uncle: he was ſon of Geoffry, eldeſt brother of Richard.

‖ Magna Charta was ſigned by John and the Barons, June 19th, 1215, at Runnimede, between Windſor and Staines.

Henry

A. D.

Henry the Third.

1216 Twelve hundred years and ſixteen, then began
Third Henry's feeble minion-guided rule:
A ſoft, irreſolute, good-natur'd prince:
* "Ah, what is mere good nature, but a fool!"

Edward the Firſt.

1272 Not ſuch was Edward; red with Paynim gore,
The ſun-burnt chief, from Syria's † parching ſtrand,
Is, in twelve hundred ſev'nty-two, call'd home,
To ſway the ſceptre of his native land.

How does a breaſt, black cruelty's abode,
Debaſe the ſage's and the hero's name!
O ruthleſs King! thro' each ſucceeding age
The vengeful ghoſt of Wallace ‡ haunts thy fame.

---

* Armſtrong's *Art of Preſerving Health*, 267.

† Syria's. Edward the firſt was in Paleſtine when his father died.

‡ Wallace. A Scotch ſoldier of fortune, who had for a long time fought for his country; he was, by order of the King, executed as guilty of high treaſon.

The

A. D.

The muſes too ſhall curſe that jealous rage,
Which doom'd to death, in Cambria's fatal day,
Their ſweeteſt ſons: for ever then were mute
* "High Hoel's † harp and ſoft Llewellyn's ‡ lay."

Edward the Second.

1307 In thirteen hundred ſev'n, the fatal crown
Encircled ſecond Edward's youthful head.
Ah me! how mis'ry ſcowls behind his throne!
Ah me! what fury mounts his bridal bed!

How ſhrunk with horror § Berkley's flinty tow'rs,
To hear, poor King, thy agonizing roar;
While, at thy ſavage conſort's || dire command,
The glowing ſteel thy frying entrails tore!

---

* Gray's *Ode* vi.

† Hoel, ‡ Llewellyn, } Welch Bards.

§ Berkley, Glouceſterſhire. The room, in which Edward was impriſoned, is ſtill to be ſeen in the tower.

|| His wife was Iſabella, of France, daughter of Philip le Bel, the greateſt beauty of her age. She levied an army againſt him, and he was abandoned by the Barons, confined in Berkley Caſtle, and moſt inhumanly murdered.

Edward

A. D.

Edward the Third.

1327 O'er thirteen hundred years and twenty-ſev'n
On rapid pinions time has wing'd his way;
Lo, the Third Edward reigns; but ah! too fond
Of martial glory and extended ſway.

O think, to thy depopulated realms
What evils from thy falſe ambition flow!
But heroes, whirl'd in vict'ry's thund'ring car,
Nor hear the widow's cry, nor orphan's woe.

Thy trophies, rear'd on Crecy's * crimſon field,
Calm reaſon with undazzled eye ſurveys:
"Are theſe the monuments of Edward's fame,"
She cries, "which havoc and injuſtice raiſe?"

Soft pity weeps while hiſtory relates
How ſoon the envied monarch's joys are fled:
War, ever wont to wreathe his brow with bays,
Now rends thoſe honors from his hoary head.

---

* Crecy, in Picardy, twelve miles north of Abbeville, where Edward gained the famous victory, Auguſt 26th, 1346, over Philip king of France. Edward Prince of Wales, ſurnamed the Black Prince, being then but ſixteen years of age, had the honor of the day. He ſlew the King of Bohemia, and took his helmet, on which were the Oſtrich feathers, with the motto *Ich dien*, I ſerve; from hence adopted for the creſt of the Prince of Wales.

A. D.

Death tears his dear Philippa from his arms,
Low in his grave the ſable * warrior lies:
Oppreſs'd with care and grief himſelf expires,
No friend † to ſoothe his woes, or cloſe his eyes.

Richard the Second. ‡

1377 In thirteen hundred ſev'nty-ſev'n, the throne
Receives the ſable chief's degen'rate boy.
His people's rights, which he had ſworn to guard,
Miſguided Prince! he labor'd to deſtroy.

Tho' venal judges § ſtrive to render law
The pliant ſlave of a deſpotic Lord;

---

* The Prince of Wales died in 1376, in the 46th year of his age, leaving behind him a character without a ſingle blemiſh, and a degree of ſorrow, which time could ſcarcely alleviate. He had won the battle of Poictiers, September 19, 1356, where King John of France had been taken priſoner.

† Edward the Third died about a year after the Prince, at Shene, in Surrey, deſerted by his courtiers, even by thoſe, who had grown rich by his bounty. He expired in the 65th year of his age, and the 51ſt of his reign.

‡ Richard the Second, ſon of the Black Prince.

§ At the opening of the Parliament, which met in September, 1397, the Lord Chancellor made a ſpeech, in which he told the members, that kings were maſters of the law. The judges were prevailed upon to declare, that the king was above the laws.

Tho'

A. D.

Tho' venal armies * page the tyrant's heels,
And round his pomp terrific flames the ſword:

What now avails the feaſt, that wont to roar
With laughter? what the blaze of rich attire?
The jocund dance, and muſic's melting voice?
And mirth, that ſaw the lamps of night expire?

Dragg'd from his throne, in Pomfret's † darkſome tow'rs
Immur'd, he groan'd his heavy hours away:
'Till, free'd from all his woes, at Exton's ‡ feet,
A breathleſs corpſe, the murder'd monarch lay.

---

* He modelled his guards, ſo that he thought them fit for every purpoſe of blood and barbarity.

† Richard, returning from Ireland, was ſeized and impriſoned in the Caſtle of Flint, near Cheſter, afterwards carried to London, tried and depoſed by an act of Parliament paſſed September 30th, 1399. He was afterwards impriſoned in Pomfret Caſtle, in Yorkſhire.

‡ Henry IV. ſent eight men to the Caſtle, headed by Sir Pierce Exton, to murder the King, who was reſolved to ſell his life as dear as poſſible: having forced a battle-axe from one of thoſe villains, he killed four of them; at laſt Exton, who was on a chair, ſtruck the King on the head with a club, and killed him inſtantly.

HOUSE OF LANCASTER.

*Henry the Fourth.**

1399 In thirteen hundred ninety-nine, the crown,
From Richard wreſted, the Fourth Harry wore!
Soon civil diſcord calls the dogs of war
To riot † lawleſs on Britannia's ſhore.

Henry the Fifth.

1413 In fourteen hundred thirteen, graceful, young,
Brave, learn'd and poliſh'd, the Fifth Harry reigns:
But ah! what grim attendants, ſword and fire,
Ere long to rage on weeping Gallia's ‡ plains!

---

* Henry of *Lancaſter*, ſurnamed of Bolingbroke, claimed the crown by lineal deſcent, being the ſon of John of Gaunt, who was the fourth ſon of King Edward III. This claim was made in a full aſſembly of the Houſe of Lords. Hence the Houſe of Lancaſter.

† His reign was a continual ſeries of internal commotions, which deluged England with blood. And though he always triumphed over his enemies, he put ſo many perſons of quality to death, for having fomented theſe inſurrections, that he was termed the Cruel.

‡ Gallia's Plains. France was anciently called Gallia.

A. D.

See war, tremendous fiend, gives to his hand
The weapon, forg'd by fate to deal the blow,
That ſoon on Agincourt's * enſanguin'd field
" † Shall lay Alençon's ‡ haughty helmet low."

Not ſuch the train, that erſt with Harry trod
The flow'ry verge of Iſis' claſſic tide §;
When, for the ſtudent's gown, he deign'd awhile
To throw the purple robes of ſtate aſide.

Attendant ever on his ſtudious walks
Was contemplation, tranquil matron, there.
The peaceful Muſes with their ſilver lyres,
And ſcience, with high converſe, charm'd his ear.

---

* Agincourt, alias Azincourt, a village in the province of Artois, where Henry defeated a French army almoſt ten times as numerous as his own, October 25th, 1415.

† Warton's *Poem on the King's Marriage.*

‡ In the heat of the action Henry was vigorouſly attacked by the Duke of Alençon, one of the French generals, who, with his axe, ſtruck ſuch a blow on his head, that it carried off a part of the King's helmet. The Duke was killed in the battle.

§ Henry was member of Queen's College, Oxford.

A. D.

Henry the Sixth.

1422 In fourteen hundred twenty-two, behold
Britannia's crown becomes an infant's * toy.
'Tis the Sixth Harry: how the man ſhall rue
The fatal ſplendors, that delight the boy!

Thou know'ſt not, gentle babe, that from thy birth,
Miſhap and ſorrow mark'd thee for their own:
Doom'd, at capricious Warwick's † lordly will,
To pine in dungeons, or to fill a throne.

How long ſhall civil diſcord, loos'd ‡ from hell,
Lead fire and ſlaughter o'er the wide domain;
Bid kindred hoſts deal mutual deaths, and lie
" § Mix'd in inceſtuous murders o'er the plain!" ‖

---

* Henry VI. was not quite a year old when he came to the throne.

† Warwick was the moſt celebrated general of his age. Henry and Edward alternately obtained the victory, as Warwick fought for either. Hence he was called the King-maker.

‡ The Duke of York began to think of aſſerting his right to the crown of England; he was deſcended by the mother's ſide from Lionel, one of the ſons of Edward III. while the reigning King was deſcended from John of Gaunt, a ſon of the ſame Edward, but younger than Lionel. The enſign of the Duke was a *white*, that of Henry, a *red roſe*. This gave the name to the two houſes.

§ Armſtrong's *Art of Preſerving Health*, B 3.

‖ Henry VI. died ſuddenly, in the year 1471, and in the 50th year of his age; it is ſuppoſed, by the hands of Richard, Duke of Gloceſter, brother of Edward the Fourth.

HOUSE

A. D.

HOUSE OF YORK.

Edward the Fourth.

1461 In fourteen hundred ſixty-one, the throne
Fourth Edward mounts, * and feaſts his brutal eye
On ſcaffolds † crimſon with Lancaſtrian gore,
And makes the regal dome " ‡ a ſenſual ſtye."

---

* Edward was the ſon of the Duke of York, who in the preceding reign aſſerted his right to the crown, and who had been killed in the battle of Wakefield, Dec. 1460.

† Edward took the moſt cruel meaſures to eſtabliſh his power; above 1400 men of rank adhering to King Henry's intereſt were put to death. He cauſed alſo the Duke of Clarence, his brother, to be drowned in a butt of Malmſey, becauſe he had ſpoken with too much freedom againſt the King.

1471, Thomas Caxton, a citizen of London, ſet up the firſt printing-preſs in Weſtminſter Abbey. The firſt invention of printing took place, in 1440, at Harleim, Straſburg and Mentz. Books were firſt printed in 1450.

‡ Milton's *Comus*

Edward

A. D.

Edward the Fifth.

1483 Could not Fifth Edward's * childhood innocence
His life, alas! from bloody Richard ſave?
The year, that ſaw him mount Britannia's throne,
Saw murder hide him in th' untimely grave.

Richard the Third.

1483 In fourteen hundred eighty-three, what fiend,
Miſhapen, hideous, meets the ſtartled eye?
'Tis the Third Richard, drunk with human gore;
† Dogs bay the monſter as he paſſes by.

---

* Edward the Fifth, eldeſt ſon of Edward the Fourth, was then twelve years of age, when he and his younger brother were, by order of their uncle, ſtifled with pillows. They had been previouſly conveyed to the Tower.

† Dogs bark at me as I halt by them.
Shakeſpeare's *Rich.* III.

A. D.

HOUSE OF TUDOR.

Henry the Seventh. *

1485 In fourteen hundred eighty-five, the crown,
He won on Boſworth's † bloody plain, behold
On the Sev'nth Henry's head, demure, ‡ ſevere,
" § Proud, dark, ſuſpicious, brooding o'er his gold."

---

* Henry the Seventh'n father was Edmund, ſon of Owen Tudor, by the widow of Henry V. His mother was Margaret, the only child of John, Duke of Somerſet, grandſon of John of Gaunt. He married the Princeſs Elizabeth, daughter of Edward the Fourth, and thus united the intereſt of the houſes of Lancaſter and York.

† Boſworth, in Leiceſterſhire, where Richard the Third was killed.

‡ The character of Henry the Seventh had ſome better features: during his reign he had all along two points in view, the one to ſet bounds to the ambition of the nobility and clergy, and the other to humanize and protect the people; with ſuch political views, and at ſuch an age, he could not be a bad King, whatever he was as a man.

In 1492, Columbus diſcovered America.

§ Thomſon's *Liberty*, B. 4.

Henry

A. D.

Henry the Eighth.

1509 Fierce with his pow'r, and frolic * of his prime,
Dreadful and gay, in fifteen hundred nine,
The youthful lion, the Eighth Harry comes,
And boasts his high descent from either line. †

That gothic church, by superstition rear'd,
In whose dark cells, in hideous durance bound,
Lay groaning reason, dauntless he assail'd,
And tore ‡ the massy fabric to the ground.

Rome heard the fall astounded: Britons now
Deride her thunders: may the latest age
Hear Britons glory in the great event,
And hail "§ the brutal tyrant's useful rage!"

---

* Frolic of his full grown age.

Milton's *Comus.*

† By the father's side from the House of Lancaster, and by the mother's side from the House of York.

‡ In 1534 Henry the Eighth procured an act to be passed for abolishing the Papal authority, and introducing the Reformation in England: he forbad all intercourse between his subjects and the court of Rome, and was made Chief of the national church.

Martin Luther had begun, in 1517, to inveigh against the indulgences granted by Pope Leo X. Henry, in 1521, defended the tenets of the established church, and received from the Pope the title of Defender of the Faith.

§ Thomson's *Summer.*

Edward

A. D.

Edward the Sixth. *

1547 Array'd in ev'ry bluſhing charm of youth,
Who comes in fifteen hundred forty-ſev'n?
'Tis the Sixth Edward; virtuous, learned, mild:
† Ah, only ſhewn, then ‡ ſnatch'd away to heav'n!

Mary. §

1553 "‖ Th' inaudible and noiſeleſs foot of time"
O'er fifteen centuries his courſe has run,
And ſummers fifty-three; ſell Mary then
Her direful reign, ſad fury! has begun.

The fury calls, and from his central gloom
The cruel dæmon, perſecution, ** hies.
Quick o'er her realms his iron whips reſound,
His fetters rattle, and his flames ariſe.

---

* Edward the Sixth, ſon of Henry by Jane Seymour, was proclaimed King at the age of nine years.

† Edward reigned but ſix years and a half, and died at Greenwich.]

‡ Oſtendent terris hunc tantùm fata.——Virg. *Æneid.* vi.

§ Mary, daughter of Henry the Eighth, by Catherine of Spain.

‖ Shakeſpeare.

** Mary perſecuted the proteſtants very ſeverely, during which time 5 biſhops, 21 clergymen, 129 laymen, 55 women, and 4 children were burnt alive.

O God!

A. D.

O God! o'er all the wide extended earth
O make ſuch bigot rage for ever ceaſe!
Let truth, exulting, call the Chriſtian world
The gentle houſhold of the Prince of Peace.

Elizabeth. *

1558 Who comes in fifteen hundred fifty-eight,
Begirt with ſages and with heroes round?
'Tis great Eliza. Raptur'd fame her praiſe
Shall to the ears of dying time reſound.

From the dread luſtre of her piercing eye,
See fraudful pop'ry ſhrink diſmay'd away;
While arts and learning, and celeſtial truth
Burſt on the nation in a flood of day.

On proud Iberia's fleet † her vengeful arm
Thunder and terror and deſtruction hurl'd;
And dauntleſs Drake, ‡ immortal hero, bore
Her awful name around the trembling world.

---

* Elizabeth was the daughter of Henry the Eighth, by Anne Boleyn.

† Iberia's fleet. The Invincible Armada of the Spaniards deſtroyed, 1588.

‡ Sir Francis Drake was one of the moſt diſtinguiſhed naval heroes, who floriſhed in the reign of Elizabeth. He made a voyage round the globe in two years and ten months.

RACE

A. D.

RACE OF STUART.

*James the Firſt.**

1603 Not ſuch her heir, in ſixteen hundred three,
Comes Scottiſh James, extinct the Tudor line.
Hark, how vile flatt'ry ſoothes his pedant ear
With "ſapient King, and King by right divine."

In action feeble, in the wordy war
Content is he his proweſs to diſplay;
"† Content to teach his ſubject herd, how great,
How ſacred he, how deſpicable they."

Were ev'ry other act forgot, that gives
To deteſtation and contempt thy name;

---

* James the Firſt was the ſon of the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots and Henry Stuart Lord Darnley. Hence the race of Stuart. Queen Mary was daughter of James the Fourth, and of Margaret, eldeſt daughter of Henry the Seventh, and it is by virtue of this right that James was recognized King of England.

The gunpowder plot diſcovered November 5, 1605.

† Thomſon's *Liberty*, B. 4.

A. D.

Yet know, that Raleigh's * murder, wretched King!
Alone would brand thee with eternal ſhame.

Charles the Firſt.

1625 In ſixteen hundred twenty-five, ſee Charles
With ſtep ſecure aſcend Britannia's throne:
Taught, unſuſpecting, from his infancy
" † Th'erroneous faith of many made for one."

Rous'd by oppreſſion to a civil war,
The nation arms. How fall the juſt and good!
Alas! not all the power ambition brings
Is worth a Hampden's ‡ or a Falkland's ‡ blood.

Charles bows his head to ſtern captivity.
The people hail their liberty reſtor'd.
But ah! fanatic fury lifts her arm,
And in the Monarch's blood § ſhe bathes the ſword.

1653 Five years the fires of civil war had blaz'd:
Cromwell, || in ſixteen hundred fifty-three,

---

* Sir Walter Raleigh, one of the greateſt ornaments of his country, was accuſed of being concerned in a conſpiracy, and after having been confined twelve years in the Tower, where he wrote ſeveral valuable performances, which are ſtill in the higheſt eſteem, was beheaded October 29, 1618.

† Pope.

‡ The former was a leader of the Parliamentary, the latter, of the Royal party.

§ Charles the firſt was beheaded on Tueſday, January the 30th, 1649.

|| Oliver Cromwell was proclaimed Protector of the kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, the 16th of December, 1653.

Uſurping

A. D.

Uſurping tyrant! bares his bloody arm;
The ſhame of pow'r, the ſcourge of liberty.

But conſcience ſleeps not: round the murd'rer's bed
Remorſe's brood of hiſſing adders creep;
Deſpair around his head ſtill clanks her chain,
And fear forbids the healing balm of ſleep.

1658 Five years he reign'd: his ſoul in tempeſts * fled.
Richard awhile his father's ſteps purſu'd;
But ſoon reſign'd the pow'r he could not wield,
And paſs'd his life in rural ſolitude.

Charles the Second.

1660 But taught at length that freedom ſafeſt blooms
Beneath the ſhelter of the regal pow'r,
In ſixteen hundred ſixty, Monck's † brave train
Their lawful King, the Second Charles, reſtore.

Free'd from the tumults of a civil war,
Charles loſt in pleaſure all his youth's fair fame;
Foe to religion, deaf to honor's voice,
Of royalty at once the pride and ſhame.

---

* His death was rendered remarkable by one of the moſt violent tempeſts, that had blown in the memory of man.

Oliver Cromwell died September the 3d, 1658, the anniverſary of the victories he had obtained at Dunbar and Worceſter. He was then 59 years old, and had uſurped the government nine years.

† General Monck, Duke of Albemarle, memorable for having reſtored Charles the Second to the crown, May the 29th, 1660.

A. D.

James the Second.

1685 His brother York, the Second James, aſcends,
In ſixteen hundred eighty-five, the throne.
Pop'ry ſhow'rs bleſſings on her bigot ſon,
And calls the realms of liberty her own.

With perſecution arm'd, the ſacred code
Of law he daſhes thoughtleſs to the ground.
Free'd from its high controul, ſee Jefferies * rage
Fierce o'er the land, and ſpread his murders round.

William the Third. †

1688 In ſixteen hundred eighty-eight, behold
Th' invited fleet in triumph's gallant pride,
Fraught with new ſtores of wealth and freedom, bears
William of Orange o'er the briny tide.

---

* Jefferies was Lord Chief Juſtice, and had been ſent into the weſt of England to try the delinquents, which he did with the moſt cruel ſeverity.

† November the 5th, 1688. The King, James the Second, ſet ſail for France, and the Parliament voted that he had abdicated the government. They choſe the Prince and Princeſs of Orange King and Queen of England, who were proclaimed February the 16th, 1689.

Conſti-

A. D.

Conſtitution.

From hence the King, the Commons, and the Lords,
To wield a mutual ſhare of pow'r agree.
From theſe three ſtates the laws derive their force;
And the King executes the high decree.

Anne.

1702 Two years o'er ſev'nteen centuries had roll'd,
When Anne aroſe to bleſs this favor'd land.
Hers was the mildneſs, that could faction ſoothe;
Hers was each virtue, that endears command.

Scotland with England in fair Union join'd, *
And Britain's fame the wond'ring nations taught,
From Blenheim's † plains to Calpe's ‡ rocky height,
"How Anne commanded, and how Marlb'rough fought." §

---

* The union of Scotland was finally ſettled July the 22d, 1707.

† The battle of Blenheim, alſo called the battle of Hochſtadt, a ſmall town in Bavaria, where the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene obtained a complete victory over the French and Bavarians, Auguſt the 2d, 1704.

‡ Calpe's. Gibraltar taken, in three days by Admiral Rook, July 24th, 1704.

§ Prior.

THE RACE OF BRUNSWICK.

George the First.

1714 In ſev'nteen hundred fourteen, Brunſwick's line
Bade ev'ry fear and ev'ry tumult ceaſe:
Juſtice and wiſdom George the Firſt combin'd;
He cruſh'd rebellion, and he liv'd in peace.

George the Second.

1727 The ſev'nteen hundredth year and twenty-ſev'nth
Diſclos'd the riſe of George the Second's fame. *
Anſon † and Vernon ‡ bow'd the Spaniards low,
Both oceans trembled at the Britiſh name.

But ſtill to darken the dread gloom of war,
Miſguided Stuart § drew rebellion's ſword:

---

* War with Spain, 1739; with France, 1742.

† Commodore Anſon plundered Payta, on the coaſt of Peru, 1742; he took a Spaniſh galleon, containing upwards of 1,500,000l. and returned to England in 1744.

‡ Admiral Vernon took Porto Bello, in South America, from the Spaniards, 1740.

§ Charles Stuart, called the Pretender, grandſon of James II.

E'en

A. D.

E'en Derby ſaw his vaunting banners wave,
And Scottiſh chieftains hail'd him as their Lord.

Ill-fated youth! Culloden's * bloody field
Sunk the vain fabric of ambition low.
Preſt with fatigue and hunger, long he roam'd,
Mid ſcenes of danger, and mid ſights of woe.

Peace ſhed her ſoft, but tranſitory balm. †
France ſoon provok'd our heroes to the field. ‡
Hawke and Boſcawen § vict'ry's flag unfurl'd,
And Gallia ſaw her baffled navies yield.

Britain's victorious ſtreamers Minden || ſaw;
In India Clive new ſtores of wealth ſupplied;
Wolfe pour'd his ſquadrons o'er Canadian ** wilds:
The hero fought, he conquer'd, and he died.

---

* Culloden in the north of Scotland, three miles eaſt of Inverneſs, where the Pretender was entirely defeated, April 16th, 1746, and eſcaped to France.

† The treaty of Aix La Chapelle, October 7, 1748.

‡ War with France, 1756.

§ November the 20th, 1759, Admiral Hawke gained a complete victory over an equal number of French ſhips, on the coaſt of Britanny, in Quiberon bay, in the midſt of a tempeſt, during the darkneſs of the night, and what ſeamen fear ſtill more, upon a rocky ſhore.

|| Minden, a large town in Germany, in the circle of Weſtphalia, where the Engliſh gained a ſignal victory over the French, Auguſt the 1ſt, 1759.

** Canadian wilds. Quebec, a ſeaport, and chief town of Canada, in North America, taken September 13, 1759, after a battle, in which General Wolfe was ſlain.

George

A. D.

George the Third.

1760 In ſev'nteen hundred ſixty, George the Third,
In Britain born, his people's dear delight,
Receiv'd the ſceptre twin'd with laurel round,
And with freſh force renew'd the thicken'd fight.

To humbled Gallia Spain allied her pow'r; *
Havannah † fell, Manilla ‡ grac'd his arms:
Yet, midſt his conqueſts, he rejoic'd to ſpare,
And free'd § th' admiring world from war's alarms.

---

* War with Spain, 1762.

† Havannah, a large ſeaport town in the iſland of Cuba, in North America, and the rendezvous of the Spaniſh fleets. It was taken by the Engliſh Auguſt the 12th, 1762, on the ſame day that the Prince of Wales was born.

‡ Manilla, the chief town of the Iſland of Luçon in India, belonging to the Spaniards, was taken by the Engliſh October the 6th, 1762.

§ Peace made with France and Spain, February the 10th, 1763.

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FINIS.